9. A National workshop on Preparedness. Control and Containment of Avian Influenza was organized at Pune during May 2007 and recently a Regional Workshop of the North-Eastern States (Sikkim, Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, Manipur, Mizoram. Arunachal Pradesh. Nagaland and West Bengal) was organized at Kolkata by Government of India from 26-28th July 2007.

Inclusion of Orissa under NHM

4. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how many districts of Orissa have been included under National Horticulture Mission; and

(b) the details of measures that are proposed to be taken for development of horticulture in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Nineteen districts of Orissa have been included under National Horiticulture Mission.

(b) For the development of horticulture in Orissa, the measures/activities being undertaken under National Horiticulture Mission includes production and distribution of quality planting material, area expansion of fruits, flower, spices, aromatic and medicinal plants, rejuvenation/replacement of senile orchards, creation of water resources, protected cultivation, promotion of integrated Nutrient Management, Integrated Pest Management, adoption of organic farming, pollination support through bee keeping, technology dissemination through demonstrations, development of infrastructure for post harvest management and marketing besides skill development of farmers, departmental officers and entrepreneurs through training and exposure visits.

Horticulture College in Orissa

5. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR proposes to provide funds for establishment of one Horticulture College in Orissa under OVAT and for development of horticulture sector in the State; and

(b) if so, the details along with the status of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) No, Sir. Agricultural Education is a State subject and establishment of agricultural universities/colleges comes with the purview of the concerned State Government.

(b) The question does not arise.

Special mission for Wheat, Rice and Pulses

† 6. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to launch a special mission very soon in order to increase the production of wheat, rice and pulses; and

(b) if so, whether any other programme is also proposed to increrase the growth rate of agriculture sector along with the above programme?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi